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ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. In its resolution 1998/57, the Commission on Human Rights requested the Secretary-General to submit an analytical report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the progress and concrete achievements made as well as obstacles encountered in the implementation of the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights and on the operation and administration of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

I. THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME IN 1998

A. Programme overview

2. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights is a comprehensive United Nations programme of support to Governments and civil society in human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

3. The technical cooperation programme is implemented under the leadership of the Office of OHCHR and aims at assisting Governments, at their request, in promoting and protecting human rights at the national and regional levels. In particular, assistance is provided for incorporating international human rights standards in national laws, policies and practices, and building national capacity and regional structures for the promotion and protection of all human rights, supporting national institutions, democracy and the rule of law. Priority consideration is given to requests for cooperation concerning activities to strengthen the national capacity or infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights aimed at long-term results. Programme activities are carried out within the context of national development objectives and coordinated United Nations system assistance in support of those objectives.

4. Advisory services and technical assistance may take the form of individual projects, each aimed at addressing a specific need, or large-scale and medium-term country programmes which begin with the fielding of a needs assessment mission, and are comprised of several integrated mutually reinforcing components.

5. Available assistance includes the provision of expert advisory services, training courses, workshops and seminars, fellowships, grants and the provision of human rights information and documentation. Assistance can include: human rights training and support to parliament, the judiciary, and police, military and prison officials; constitutional assistance; legal reform; the administration of justice, including the drafting of human rights standing orders; the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions; training on the human rights aspects of free and fair elections; the promotion of human rights education, including curriculum development; and support to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society institutions. Expert advice and assistance is also available for specialized human rights issues, such as the formulation and implementation of comprehensive human rights national plans of action, establishment and

strengthening of national institutions; investigation into, and compensation of, victims of human rights abuses; and assisting with training and projects relating to economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development. Annex I provides a graph indicating the country project's focus in 1998.

6. Technical cooperation activities are financed mainly through the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and partly from the regular budget for technical cooperation in the field of human rights. 1998 has been a record year in terms of an increasing number of requests for assistance received, as well as in terms of contributions to the Voluntary Fund, and the overall number of technical cooperation activities and programmes implemented by OHCHR.

B. Budget, administration and management

7. During 1998, a total of 49 technical cooperation projects were carried out of which 10 were at the global level, 8 at the regional level and 31 at the national level. In addition to developing and managing those projects, needs assessment and/or project formulation missions to the Philippines, Yemen, Niger, Cameroon, Congo, Chad, Ecuador and other countries were undertaken and substantive support to all OHCHR field presences and United Nations field operations was provided. A brief summary of activities carried out in 1998 by country, region, and at the global level, is provided in section II of this report.

8. The total expenditure for technical cooperation in 1998 (as of 31 October 1998) was estimated at US\$ 7.2 million, of which US\$ 1.2 million was financed through the regular budget for technical assistance of the United Nations and approximately US\$ 6 million was financed through the Voluntary Fund. Total contributions and pledges to the Voluntary Fund in 1998 amounted to a record amount of US\$ 10.9 million. As of 30 November 1998, total programming resources amounted to US\$ 2.2 million, while US\$ 19.4 million was required to finance a total of 85 ongoing and planned projects for 1999. The distribution of projects and projected expenditures by region is shown in annex II. Information on income and expenditures for 1998 under the Voluntary Fund is provided in annex III. Contributions to the Fund in recent years are listed in annex IV. Quarterly status reports on contributions are prepared by the secretariat of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and are available upon request.

C. Increased coordination and cooperation at the national and international levels

1. Cooperation with NGOs

9. OHCHR encourages the full involvement of NGOs as crucial partners in the development and delivery of technical cooperation. NGOs both help in the delivery of assistance and benefit as recipients of it. Thus, in furthering the programme's goal of strengthening civil society, OHCHR is increasingly being called upon by Governments and others to provide assistance to national NGOs in the context of its country activities by soliciting their input, including them in seminars and training courses, and supporting appropriate projects developed by them. In these ways, the programme is able to

contribute to the development of national NGOs' capacity to assume more effectively their crucial role in a democratic society. NGOs are also involved in the programme by contributing their considerable expertise at the needs assessment, implementation, evaluation and follow-up phases.

2. Cooperation with UNDP

10. OHCHR works towards the integration of its projects into larger multi-agency action in a common United Nations framework for development assistance. OHCHR's programmes also take into account existing or planned assistance from bilateral and other international donors. In this way, the technical cooperation programme aims at the elaboration of a comprehensive national strategy and programme framework for an integrated, coherent and coordinated response to national needs.

11. On 4 March 1998, the High Commissioner and the Administrator of UNDP signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen and expand institutional cooperation and coordination with a view to increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities carried out within their respective mandates. UNDP has main responsibility for assisting in the strengthening of national capacities to achieve sustainable human development as well as for system-wide coordination of operational activities at the country level and OHCHR has main responsibility for the promotion of universal human rights, as well as system-wide coordination on all matters relating to human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The adoption of a rights-based approach to all development cooperation remains an important challenge for OHCHR. Crucial coordination and in-country logistical support for OHCHR's projects are traditionally provided by UNDP through its network of field offices. Several joint initiatives are being carried out by both institutions in different regions.

12. OHCHR is presently also implementing numerous technical cooperation projects at the national, regional and global levels in close cooperation with other United Nations agencies and programmes, as well as with regional organizations, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the United Nations Staff College, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and other regional governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Commission on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR), the United Nations Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD) and others.

D. Programme approach and methodology

1. Project identification and formulation

13. Technical cooperation activities and programmes are carried out exclusively within the framework of the relevant legislative mandates and at the request and with the agreement of the Government concerned. OHCHR, in most cases, responds to a Government's request by conducting an assessment of the country's particular needs, priorities and capacities in the field of human rights. This is usually done by fielding a needs assessment mission consisting of both staff and consultants. The assessment team meets with interested parties, both governmental and non-governmental, and works in close cooperation with the United Nations resident coordinator, United Nations agencies and programmes, as well as local donors. During the assessment, the team compiles detailed information on current policies, legislation, programmes and activities and human and financial capacities in key areas. The team thereby ensures that there is a clear understanding of government priorities, objectives, programmes and plans of action. The assessment provides the framework for developing possible future technical cooperation activities to strengthen national efforts in identified areas to contribute to the achievement of national objectives and, by ensuring coordination with existing or planned assistance from other donors, sometimes facilitates additional support from other international sources.

14. Following the needs assessment, OHCHR is usually requested to develop, in partnership with the Government, a project focusing on the problems to be addressed. A project document is prepared describing the situation, and the reasons why a project is initiated; outlining the plan of what will be done and what will be produced when, how and by whom; and assesses the situation that is expected to exist when the project ends. The project document becomes an agreement outlining the obligations and responsibilities of each partner in the project; provides the basis for accountability; includes a guide to planning and implementation; and provides the framework for evaluation and the criteria by which the success of the project will be assessed.

15. In many cases, a project formulation mission is undertaken by staff to enable them to consult closely with the Government and other partners on the final design of the proposed project, including problem analysis and definition, the identification of the intended solution and a strategy for achieving it. The mission also outlines the most appropriate inputs and implementation arrangements for the production of project outputs; the risks involved and how they can be avoided; and what human and financial resources are needed from OHCHR, the Government concerned, and other parties.

2. Project approval, funding and implementation

16. Technical cooperation projects are approved by OHCHR following review of the proposals by the recently established Project Review Committee (PRC), and with the advice of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (BOT/VFTC) if the project is to be funded from this fund. Both the PRC and the BOT/VFTC follow the activities and programmes closely through the periodical review of substantive reports of activities and expenditures. Status reports on the project activities and on the VFTC are

prepared quarterly and made available to member States to ensure maximum transparency and accountability in the implementation and management of the technical cooperation programme. Most of the information is regularly updated on the website (www.unhchr.ch). Funding for country projects is provided primarily under the Voluntary Fund. Sometimes, projects are funded or co-funded by other agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular UNDP.

17. In countries where a multi-year, multi-component technical cooperation project is being implemented, a Project Steering Committee is usually established, consisting of representatives of the main counterparts to the project, including government ministries, concerned United Nations agencies, national human rights institutions and, as appropriate, NGOs. The Committee meets periodically to review specific project developments and make recommendations concerning the timing and content of upcoming activities. The Committee may also recommend new activities in related areas in order to maximize the objectives of the project. The Committee ensures that the direct recipients of the project reflect the ethnic and gender composition of the country.

3. Project monitoring and evaluation

18. As part of standard procedures, project monitoring missions are undertaken by OHCHR Project Managers at least once a year. The purpose of such missions is to record progress in the work plan, to ensure efficient and effective project implementation, to identify any problems with a view to adapting project activities accordingly, and to adjust to new needs and conditions not foreseen at the design stage. Monitoring missions are frequently combined with project activities to allow for Project Managers to actively participate in meetings of the Project Steering Committee and/or seminars, workshops, training courses and other activities, usually as resource persons.

19. The final phase of a project cycle is an independent project evaluation once all activities provided for under the project have been completed. All evaluations are carried out by independent consultants, who assess the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the project activities and the impact and results. This process aims at ensuring that lessons learned are applied in the design and implementation of future projects, both in the country concerned and elsewhere.

E. Assistance to national human rights institutions

20. Both the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights have requested the High Commissioner to accord priority to the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions. Such assistance is now a major component of the technical cooperation programme and is provided, in particular, by and through the Special Adviser on National Institutions, Regional Arrangements and Preventive Strategies to the High Commissioner for Human Rights, supported by OHCHR staff and consultants. The assistance is generally financed by contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation which are often specifically earmarked for national institutions. OHCHR activities in support of national institutions can be broadly divided

into two areas: the provision of practical advice and assistance to those involved in the establishment of new national institutions or the strengthening of existing ones; and facilitating international and regional meetings of national institutions. In 1998, assistance to such meetings included regional forums in Asia, Africa and Europe.

21. With regard to the establishment or strengthening of national institutions, a large number of countries, particularly in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, were the focus of assistance in 1998. Establishing an appropriate constitutional or legislative mandate for any new national institution is of primary importance as it is essential that the institution be able to respond adequately to the needs of the community it is established to serve. In recognition of the importance of the pre-establishment phase, the Special Adviser provided preliminary advice or assistance to a large number of countries considering or actually establishing or strengthening a national human rights institution. During 1998, those countries included Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Jordan, Liberia, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda and Thailand.

22. Assistance is also provided to recently established national institutions. In South Africa, the Human Rights Commission is a central focus of the OHCHR technical cooperation project. A substantial project of technical assistance to the Latvian Human Rights Office is currently being implemented. In 1998, missions were sent to follow up arrangements for a comprehensive programme of support for the new Ugandan Human Rights Commission. Advice and assistance has also been provided to the new Human Rights Commission in Zambia. Other national institutions which have worked in cooperation with activities sponsored by the High Commissioner include those in India, Indonesia and the Philippines. In many of these countries, OHCHR is consulting and cooperating with UNDP in recognition of the close relationship between human rights, good governance and sustainable development. The High Commissioner has also encouraged the formulation of projects conducted in close cooperation with bilateral donors.

F. Integration of gender into the technical cooperation programme

23. In 1997 OHCHR commenced implementation of a project (developed jointly with the Division for the Advancement of Women) to integrate gender into its technical cooperation programme. A thorough review of the programme from this perspective was undertaken by a consultant recruited for that purpose. In March 1998, an expert group meeting was held to review the consultant's findings and to develop recommendations for future action. In addition to external experts, the meeting included representatives from the Division for the Advancement of Women, UNIFEM, UNFPA and ILO. The recommendations which emerged from this meeting are currently being implemented. Follow-up activities include the development, in July 1998, of detailed guidelines on gender and the human rights of women for use by OHCHR staff and consultants in the preparation and execution of all seminars and training activities. Similar guidelines for evaluating technical cooperation projects will be developed in the first quarter of 1999. It is expected that guidelines will,

as recommended by the expert group meeting, be supplemented by staff training and other efforts aimed at ensuring the integration of gender into the evolving methodology of technical cooperation.

G. Integration of economic, social and cultural rights into the technical cooperation programme

24. Also in 1997, OHCHR commenced implementation of a project to integrate economic, social and cultural rights into the technical cooperation programme. A research consultant was engaged to review all activities and projects to date with a view to identifying strengths and weaknesses in this area. In March 1998, an expert group meeting was convened under the chairmanship of the Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to review the consultant's findings and to develop recommendations for future action. Participants included external experts and the Director of the United Nations Human Development Report Office. The recommendations which emerged from this meeting are currently being implemented. Follow-up activities include the development of a practitioners manual on integration of economic, social and cultural rights into the work of national human rights institutions; the organization of a pilot training session on human rights for staff of United Nations development agencies; and the holding of a national workshop on human rights in development policies with the participation of government officials, United Nations agency staff and civil society representatives. Further follow-up activities will be held throughout 1999 with a view to ensuring that technical cooperation methodology fully reflects this important set of rights.

H. Support to the Voluntary Fund

25. The Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation was set up in 1993 pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87, to advise the Secretary-General on the administration and operation of the Fund and to encourage contributions to the Fund. As at 31 December 1997, the Board was composed of the following members: Ms. Leila Takla (Egypt), Chairperson; Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre (Uruguay); Ms. Anne-Marie Lizin (Belgium); Mr. Kinhide Mushakoji (Japan); and Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski (Poland). The Board is presently serviced by OHCHR through the Field Methodology and Advisory Services Team of the Activities and Programmes Branch.

26. In 1998, the Board held its ninth and tenth sessions, from 6 to 8 July and from 30 November to 3 December, respectively. During its sessions and through correspondence, the Board considered 18 new project proposals and 1 project addendum; reviewed 2 recently completed and evaluated projects; examined the implementation status of 10 current projects and activities; discussed project priorities, formats and procedures; reviewed the OHCHR criteria for project identification, formulation and evaluation; examined financial and administrative matters concerning the Fund and discussed the Board's fundraising efforts.

27. During 1998 technical cooperation projects were developed and/or approved for the following countries and/or regions: Azerbaijan, Croatia, Gabon, Guatemala (addendum), Indonesia, Madagascar, Philippines, Morocco,

Nicaragua, Georgia, Chad, Latin American region, Asian and Pacific region (3) and global (3). The reports of the ninth and tenth sessions of the Board are available at the secretariat upon request.

28. During the year the post of the Coordinator of the Voluntary Fund remained vacant. The Team Leader of the Field Methodology and Advisory Services Team acted as Coordinator ad interim and made all efforts to keep the Board, the member States and donor countries well informed of all technical cooperation activities funded by the regular budget and the Voluntary Fund, as well as of the financial situation of the Fund. OHCHR has now completed the process of recruitment of the new Coordinator of the Fund and the person will take up his responsibilities early in 1999.

29. Present challenges for the Fund remain the need to receive more funding to implement all ongoing and pipeline projects, the review of the internal manual on guidelines and procedures of the technical cooperation programme in accordance with the recently approved procedures and priorities of OHCHR, and the training of the new 28 Geographical Country Desk Officers who will be responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring technical cooperation projects as part of their new functions.

I. Fellowship programme activities

30. Participants in fellowship activities during 1998 received intensive specialized training on the preparation and presentation of State reports to the main human rights treaty monitoring bodies as part of the two comprehensive 10-day training programmes. A first global training programme was conducted at the United Nations Staff College in Turin, Italy, and a second, regional training programme, for Spanish-speaking States was organized in close cooperation with the Government of El Salvador. A third regional training programme aimed at English-speaking Caribbean States is expected to take place in January 1999. All three training programmes were financed from the regular budget for technical cooperation in the field of human rights.

31. The global training programme, was conducted in English at the United Nations Staff College from 26 October to 6 November 1998. Participants from 13 countries attended the course: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Gambia, Iran, Kuwait (Islamic Republic of), Liberia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Yemen. Six experts and/or OHCHR staff members participated as resource persons. Subjects included migrant workers, NGOS and human rights mechanisms, the purpose of reporting, the right to development, and the conventions being reported on.

32. The second regional training course for Spanish-speaking States was conducted in San Salvador from 9 to 19 November 1998. Twenty-four international participants from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic (2), Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala (3), Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as 12 representatives of local non-governmental organizations and 4 local United Nations staff attended the course. The course was organized by the OHCHR technical cooperation programme in Geneva

and implemented by the OHCHR field office in El Salvador in close cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Government of El Salvador. Six committee experts, including one gender expert from CEDAW, were invited to participate as resource persons in the training course.

33. The third training programme, organized in close cooperation with UNDP and UNICEF, is aimed at training government representatives of English-speaking Caribbean States and will be conducted in Guyana in January 1999. Participants from eight countries of the region are expected to participate in the training.

34. Challenges for the fellowship programme remain the follow-up and evaluation of the impact of the courses at the national level, as well as the translation of the training materials into other languages. Courses on reporting obligations include a session to familiarize participants with the treaty bodies database available on the OHCHR Website, as well as with updated procedures for the preparation of reports, including the incorporation of a gender perspective into the process of data collection, systematization of the information, and data analysis and presentation. Global and regional training programmes on reporting obligations are complemented by national training courses, as part of country programmes of technical cooperation.

J. Training materials developed to support technical cooperation

35. As part of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, OHCHR has been enhancing the development of its series of training manuals and handbooks, for use by both instructors and participants. OHCHR training materials support all training activities implemented within the framework of global, regional and national technical cooperation programmes. Training manuals contain the international standards relevant to the target audience, together with detailed advice on appropriate pedagogical techniques. In addition to enhancing training efforts carried out under the technical cooperation programme, the manuals constitute a valuable resource for organizations and individuals involved in human rights education at all levels.

36. Training packages available in English, French and Spanish, are published in the Professional Training Series of publications. The six titles published so far are: Human Rights and Social Work: A Manual of Social Work and the Social Work Profession (No. 1); Human Rights and Elections: A Handbook on the Legal, Technical and Human Rights Aspects of Elections (No. 2); Human Rights and Pre-Trial Detention: A Handbook of International Standards relating to Pre-Trial Detention (No. 3); National Human Rights Institutions: A Handbook on the Establishment and Strengthening of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (No. 4); Human Rights and Law Enforcement: A Manual on Human Rights Training for the Police (No. 5); International Human Rights Standards for Law Enforcement: A Pocket Book on Human Rights for the Police (No. 5/Add.1).

37. Training and reference material that are under review and/or being used on a trial basis at the present time are: a training manual and trainer's guide on human rights monitoring; a handbook on conflict resolution; a trainers guide for civilian police monitors; a training manual for judges and

lawyers; a training manual, trainer's guide and pocket guide for prison officials; a training manual for journalists; and a training manual for the armed forces.

38. Other training and reference materials in the pipeline are: a training manual for primary and secondary school teachers; a training manual for national and local NGOs; a handbook for parliamentarians; a trainer's guide for military peacekeepers; a training manual for the treatment of victims of domestic violence for the police; and a handbook on human rights and constitutions.

39. The main constraint remains the lack of financial resources to translate all training materials into all official languages. The OHCHR regular budget available for publications is inadequate and some publications therefore have to be translated on an ad hoc basis, as part of global, regional or country programmes financed from the Voluntary Fund.

II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION FIELD ACTIVITIES IN 1998 1/

A. Projects completed and evaluated

40. The following project was completed and/or evaluated during the present year:

Guinea Conakry. A final independent evaluation was undertaken from 4 to 18 November 1998. The report of the final evaluation will be presented early in 1999.

41. The following projects were under review for the present year:

GLO/95/AH/31. Preparatory Assistance - Sensitization of the Armed Forces in Human Rights. Project under review; adjustments pending; BOT/VFTC informed about the project status at its tenth session.

RAF/95/AH/23. Regional Training in Human Rights for Heads of Military Academies in Africa. Cooperating agency: OAU. OHCHR contribution: US\$ 235,074. Remarks: Project under review.

B. Projects under implementation 2/

1. Global projects

42. The global projects under implementation are the following:

GLO/95/AH/16. Support to the Implementation of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004)

Date of approval by OHCHR:	4 April 1996
Project status:	Ongoing
United Nations Implementing Organ:	OHCHR

Cooperating agency:

UNESCO

OHCHR contribution:

US\$ 857,200

Activities: survey of existing programmes, materials and organizations for human rights education at regional, national and local levels among all partners of the Decade (Governments, NGOS, IGOs); collection of materials for human rights education produced at the international, regional, national and local levels for human rights educators; grants provided to organizations and individuals at local level to undertake activities promoting and protecting human rights within the framework of the pilot phase of ACT (Assisting Communities Together), in cooperation with UNDP; expert meeting to revise the OHCHR human rights training package for prison officials (March 1998); training material on human rights being developed for different professional groups (prison officers, primary and secondary school teachers, judges, lawyers, national and local NGOS, human rights monitors, media); publications for pre-primary/primary school audience; constitution and support of a Media Advisory Board; on-going implementation of the reference material available on the OHCHR Website; production of a series of basic information kits under the title "1998: Fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", to facilitate information-sharing; inter-agency group meetings held on a regular basis to discuss individual or joint initiatives in connection with the fiftieth anniversary and a OHCHR-UNESCO joint project for the broad dissemination of the Universal Declaration in schools.

GLO/96/AH/24. Integration of a Gender Perspective into Technical Cooperation Practice and Procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR:

12 February 1997

Project status:

Ongoing

Implementing agency:

OHCHR with the cooperation of the Division for the Advancement of Women

OHCHR contribution:

US\$ 83,600 (tied contribution from New Zealand US\$ 10,000)

Activities: project in its final phase. Two pilot activities envisaged under this phase have been implemented in Nepal. An additional pilot activity will be implemented in El Salvador in early 1999.

GLO/98/AH/02. Fifth Training Programme on Peacekeeping and Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR :

5 March 1998

Project status:

Completed

Implementing agency: OHCHR, DPKO, United Nations Staff College Project

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 39,358

Activities: One training programme at the United Nations Staff College for military and police trainers of peacekeeping contingents on peacekeeping, human rights and humanitarian assistance (April 1998).

GLO/98/AH/10. Integrating Human Rights in the United Nations System: Strengthening National Capacities for Human Rights Training of Military and Police Peacekeepers

Date of approval by OHCHR : 2 Oct. 1998

Project status: Completed

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 165,878

Activities: training course on peacekeeping, human rights, humanitarian assistance for military and police trainers held in November 1998.

GLO/95/AH/09. Support to Action for National Human Rights Institutions

Project status: Ongoing

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 59,490

Remarks: external evaluation of national institutions' activities under this project undertaken in April 1998; report to be issued.

GLO/96/AH/29. Integration of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights into Technical Cooperation Practices and Procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR: 12 Feb. 1997

Project status: Ongoing

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 83,600

Activities: project in its final phase. Pilot activities envisaged under this phase have been conducted in Nepal. Additional activities to be undertaken during 1999.

GLO/97/AH/01. Strengthening Human Rights in the former Yugoslavia

Date of approval by OHCHR : 3 Oct. 1997

Project status: Completed

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 165,545

UNMIBH (in kind): US\$ 20,000

Activities: three professionals recruited. Human rights training course for international and local police, jointly with UNMIBH (May to November 1998).

GLO/97/AH/20. Interim Measures for the Integration of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights into Technical Cooperation Practices and Procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR : March 1998

Project status: Ongoing

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 67,800

Source of funding: United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation

Activities: consultants identified and draft outline for "Practitioners Handbook on Integrating Economic, Social and Cultural Rights into the Work of National Woman's Rights Commissions" prepared. Remarks: recruitment will take place in early 1999. Manual is expected to be ready for first test use in May 1999. Consultant identified. Recruitment will take place in early 1999.

2. African region

43. The regional projects being implemented in the African region are the following:

RAF/97/AH/21. Strengthening Cooperation in the African Region and Promoting the Development and Strengthening of National Human Rights Institutions

Date of approval by OHCHR: 20 March 1998

Project status: Ongoing

Cooperating agency: South African Human Rights Commission

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 83,200

Activities: participation of OHCHR and African Commission in the third session of the group of experts to develop a protocol for the establishment of an African commission; participation of key national institutions to the Second Regional Conference of African National Human Rights Institutions (Durban, South Africa, 1-3 July 1998); participation of OHCHR in the preparation of the Conference (30 March-4 April 1998, Addis Ababa and Luanda; 15-16 July 1998, Addis Ababa). Project monitoring mission to Banjul, 24-31 October 1998.

RAF/96/AH/30. Strengthening of the Regional Mechanism for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 21 October 1997

Date of approval by African Commission: 30 October 1997

Project status: Ongoing

Cooperating agency: OAU

Implementing agency: African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 381,940

Activities: coordination mission in Addis Ababa and Luanda (27 March to 4 April 1998) to prepare the first African Ministerial Conference on Human and Peoples' Rights to be held in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 24 to 31 January 1999. Remarks: addendum to project authorized by OHCHR in June 1998. Project monitoring mission took place in Banjul from 24 to 31 October 1998.

44. The national projects being implemented in the African region are the following:

Burundi
BDI/97/AH/06. Strengthening of the Rule of Law

Date of approval by OHCHR: 3 November 1997

Date of approval by Government: 23 October 1997

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Human Rights

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 919,045

Activities: training course for Bujumbura secondary school teachers (28 September-2 October 1998); training course for "Magistrats des Tribunaux de Résidence" (2-27 March 1998); meetings with members of local human rights associations to plan the activities related to the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (May 1998); first session of training of police officers (5-16 October 1998); training seminar for primary school principals (9-31 March 1998); training courses for law enforcement officers (5-16 October 1998); training course for high-level military magistrates (6-31 July 1998); monitoring of the implementation of a human rights chair at the Institut supérieur pour les cadres militaires. Remarks: third phase of three-year project started in 1994, aiming at consolidating the results of the past projects.

Burundi
BDI/96/AH/21. Legal Assistance to Burundi

Date of approval by OHCHR: 23 September 1996
Date of approval by Government: 10 October 1996
Project status: Ongoing (extended for 1998)
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 565,000 (tied contribution from Sweden, Norway and Belgium US\$ 275,018 and pledge from Sweden US\$ 390,000)

Activities: OHCHR secured international lawyers at three sessions of the three Criminal Chambers of the country: first session (January to February 1998) covered by advocates, second and third sessions (May and June 1998) covered by two teams of five lawyers.

Malawi
MLW/95/AH/34. Consolidation of the Democratic Process

Date of approval by OHCHR: 24 April 1996
Date of approval by Government: 12 July 1996
Project status: Ongoing
Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 786,378

Activities: consultancy on legal reforms completed. Human Rights Commission workshop (30 November-1 December 1998).

Morocco
MOR/96/AH/20. Introducing Human Rights Curricula in Primary and Secondary Schools

Date of approval by OHCHR: 21 February 1997
Date of approval by Government: 14 March 1997
Project status: Ongoing
Government implementing agency: Ministry of Education and Ministry in charge of Human Rights

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 326,000

European Commission contribution: US\$ 450,000

Activities: project monitoring mission (13-18 January 1998); training workshop for "Inspecteurs de l'enseignement" (April 1998). Remarks: memorandum of intent signed by the Government and by OHCHR on 28 April 1998 for the creation of a documentation and training centre for human rights; project formulation mission undertaken from 22 to 30 July 1998. Memorandum of understanding signed by the Government and OHCHR in April 1998. Project approved by the project steering committee on 24 September 1998. Project presented to the tenth session of BOT/VFTC.

Namibia

NAM/96/AH/10. Assistance in the Implementation of Human Rights Standards

Date of approval by OHCHR: 19 June 1997

Date of approval by Government: July 1997

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 293,800

Government input: US\$ 18,000

Activities: training for police, prison officers, the military and the judiciary (16-20 March 1998).

South Africa

SAF/96/AH/16. Human Rights Institutional Strengthening

Date of approval by OHCHR: 30 April 1997

Date of approval by Government: November 1997

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 1,014,627

Government input: US\$ 101,034

Activities: grant for human rights training at Fort Harare University (January 1998); national project personnel recruited (April 1998); printing of human rights documents; human rights training for the administration of justice; assistance to police; support to the Land Commission; support to the Second Regional Conference on Human Rights Commissions.

Togo

TOG/95/AH/18. Support to Development of a Human Rights Culture and the Rule of Law

Date of approval by OHCHR: 16 January 1996
 Date of approval by Government: 26 January 1996
 Project status: Ongoing
 Government implementing agency: Ministry of Human Rights
 OHCHR contribution: US\$ 630,382

Activities: establishment of information and documentation centre ongoing; US\$ 50,000 grant to human rights NGOs (December 1998); 1 training course for judges and lawyers (Lomé, 23-27 March 1998); 1 training course for members of the National Commission to Harmonize the Legislation (31 August-4 September 1998); 1 training course for primary and secondary teachers on the teaching of human rights (26-30 October 1998); fellowship for documentalists (Ottawa, Canada, 4-29 May 1998); 2 consultative missions of experts for the revision of national legislation (30 November-4 December 1998) and for the introduction of the teaching of human rights in primary and secondary schools (14-18 December 1998); purchase of human rights publications for the national jurisdiction organs, local NGOS, the National Commissions on Human Rights and the National Commission to Harmonize the Legislation (July 1998). Remarks: project monitoring mission undertaken from 26 to 30 November 1998. Final project evaluation mission will be undertaken in January 1999.

3. Asian and Pacific region 3/

45. The regional and national projects in the Asian-Pacific region are the following:

Bhutan

BHU/95/AH/20. Strengthening National Human Rights Capacity

Date of approval by OHCHR: 4 October 1996
 Date of approval by Government: 30 September 1996
 Project status: Ongoing
 OHCHR Contribution: US\$ 290,600

Activities: seminar for district court judges on judicial functions (15-19 June 1998); provision of documentation for the High Court library (1998-1999).

Mongolia

MON/98/AH/03. Programme for Strengthening National Infrastructures for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 18 May 1998

Date of approval by Government: 18 May 1998

Project status: Ongoing

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 217,551

Activities: follow-up of project MON/94/AH/09. Preparatory arrangements for the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration: activities will be carried out jointly with other United Nations agencies, the Government, local media and NGOs; human rights law textbooks have been proposed to the Board of Advisers established to review and adopt the human rights curricula for universities; penitentiary legislation being translated into English for review of its compliance with international norms and standards.

Nepal

NEP/95/AH/21. Strengthening the Administration of Justice and Building National Human Rights Capacity

Date of approval by OHCHR: 7 June 1996

Date of approval by Government: 16 October 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Government/institutional counterpart: Ministry for Foreign Affairs

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 441,050

Activities: training course for NGOs in international mechanisms and procedures for the protection of human rights (8-12 June 1998); report available; translation, printing of compilation of international instruments; Government, United Nations and NGO workshop on development policies and human rights (23-27 November 1998); training materials for the Police Academy (1998-1999); grants to NGO projects (1998-1999); activities on human rights, forced prostitution and trafficking of women and children (1998-1999); consultancy mission on police standing orders (19 April-1 May 1998) for the follow-up of police training programmes; publication and distribution of standing orders to all police staff (November-December 1998); reports available. This project has been linked to GLO/98/AHB/24 and GLO/96/AHB/29. All project components have been revised to integrate gender and economic, social and cultural rights. A specific focus on trafficking of women and children and forced prostitution will be given to activities to be implemented in 1999.

Papua New Guinea
PNG/97/AH/05/I. Capacity Development for the Human Rights Commission

Date of approval by OHCHR: 7 August 1997
Project status: Completed
Government/institutional counterpart: Attorney General's Department
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 89,900

Remarks: follow-up project to PNG/96/AH/04 to assist the newly established Human Rights Commission; final evaluation mission postponed due to natural disaster; a further follow-up project has been prepared. It will be finalized once legislation establishing the Human Rights Commission is passed by Parliament.

4. Central and Eastern Europe/CIS countries

46. The projects in the Central and Eastern European/CIS countries are the following:

Albania
ALB/92/AH/04. Country Programme

Date of approval by OHCHR: 30 January 1992
Date of approval by Government: 13 February 1992
Project status: Completed
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 163,000
Remarks: Project evaluation to be undertaken in 1999.

Armenia
ARM/95/AH/11. Strengthening Capacities for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 30 May 1996
Project status: Ongoing
Government implementing agency: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Department of Human Rights
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 232,215

Activities: translation of International Conventions into Armenian; editing and distribution of translated documents (February 1998). Remarks: workshop

on development of a national plan of action in the field of human rights will be held in January 1999 for government officials, NGOs, educators and legal community. Independent project evaluation mission will be undertaken in early 1999.

Azerbaijan

AZE/95/AH/12. Strengthening Capacities and Infrastructure for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 15 July 1998
 Date of approval by Government: 28 July 1998
 Project status: Ongoing
 Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
 OHCHR contribution: US\$ 405,000
 Counterpart government budget: (In kind) 65,250,000 manat

Activities: mission by the project manager to initiate activities for the project from 19 to 23 October 1998.

Georgia

GEO/95/AH/13. Strengthening Capacities and Infrastructures for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 8 October 1997
 Date of approval by Government: 17 October 1997
 Project status: Ongoing
 Government implementing agency: Ministry for Foreign Affairs
 OHCHR contribution: US\$ 715,397

Activities: 2 new international human rights officers recruited to work in the Sukhumi office (June and December 1998); training for human rights education combined with project monitoring mission (October 1998): grant agreement with the implementing NGOs concluded (August 1998); analysis and selection of books for depository library begun; 2 government officials participated in the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Reporting Course (Turin, October 1998); 2 Georgian academics funded to participate in a human rights course at Birmingham University, with theoretical and practical training (September-November 1998); project steering committee meeting (October 1998).

Latvia

LAT/95/AH/17. Capacity Development of the National Human Rights Office

Date of approval by OHCHR: 12 January 1996

Date of approval by Government: January 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Latvian Human Rights Office

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 694,950

Counterpart government budget: 21,000 lats (US\$ 42,000)

Activities: 2 government officials attended a regional meeting on human rights in Yalta (August 1998); purchase of human rights library resource materials and books (December 1998); 2 government officials were sponsored to attend a training on European Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in Strasbourg, France (November 1998); Senior Adviser *in situ* provided institutional development support (November 1998); senior national institution consultant completed mission to Latvia (May 1998) on improvement of office management (joint consultancy paid by OHCHR and UNDP); project steering committee meetings with the participation of the Project Manager (February and October 1998); planning of the Universal Declaration fiftieth anniversary events and other activities (end of 1998); retreat for staff of national institutions with training on policy and programme planning (November 1998); information brochure on complaint consideration published in 100,000 copies (November 1998).

Republic of Moldova

MOL/97/AH/19. Support to Democratic Initiatives in the Field of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 19 December 1997

Date of approval by Government: 29 December 1997

Date of approval by UNDP: 6 January 1998

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Ministry for Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Permanent Committee on Human Rights and National Minorities of the Parliament of Moldova

Implementing agency: The Moldova Human Rights Centre

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 147,000

Counterpart UNDP budget: US\$ 279,000

Counterpart government budget (in kind): Moldovan lei 342,000

Activities: international consultant on human rights institution organizational design and human resources recruited from 25 April to 8 May 1998 for a mission to complete organizational, financial and office work plans for the Moldovan Human Rights Centre in Chisinau; second mission of the international consultant (November-December 1998).

5. Latin American and Caribbean region

47. The projects in the Latin American and Caribbean region are the following:

RLA/98/AH/01. Second Regional Training Course on Reporting Obligations for Spanish-Speaking States, Brazil and Equatorial Guinea

Date of approval by OHCHR: 1 May 1998

Project status: Completed

Host country: El Salvador

Source of funding: Regular budget for technical assistance

Total cost: US\$ 101,300

Activities: training course held from 9 to 19 November 1998 in San Salvador. Spanish-speaking governmental and non-governmental participants from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic (2), Ecuador, El Salvador (16), Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala (3), Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, and 4 local United Nations staff members. Six experts hired as resource persons from relevant treaty bodies. Report available.

RLA/96/AH/09. Strengthening Democratic Institutions in the Andean Region (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela)

Date of approval by OHCHR: 8 October 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Cooperating agency: Andean Commission of Jurists (ACJ)

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 392,761

Activities: 2 seminars for magistrates combined with project monitoring mission (Lima, 27-29 May 1998 and Bogota, October 1998); establishment of regional information network. Remarks: new memorandum of understanding between ACJ and OHCHR signed in October 1998. Independent project evaluation to be undertaken early in January 1999. Project extension under consideration.

RLA/96/AH/12. Pilot Project: Strengthening of Police Institutions for the Improvement of Police Application of Human Rights Standards in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama

Date of approval by OHCHR: 8 October 1996

Project status: Completed

Implementing agency: United Nations Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD) in cooperation with the Police of Costa Rica

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 234,752

Activities: workshop on police-community activities implemented in Costa Rica (15-17 October 1998); two police officers and two community representatives per country (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama) participated; four country studies on positive police-community activities were completed (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama); Guidelines to improve police-community activities elaborated as a result of workshop. Project monitoring mission undertaken in October 1998 in combination with the workshop on police-community activities. Follow-up will be done in cooperation with the National Police of Nicaragua.

RLA/95/AH/32. Preparatory Assistance: Strengthening International Human Rights Standards Application in the Penitentiary System of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama

Date of approval by OHCHR: 5 June 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Implementing agency: OHCHR

Cooperating agency: ILANUD

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 150,625

Activities: national workshops in Costa Rica and Panama to discuss findings of studies and elaborate penitentiary policies implemented (19-20 October and 22-23 October 1998); national country studies on the penitentiary system in conformity with international human rights standards completed in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. National workshops in Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador to be implemented February/March 1999. Second project monitoring mission undertaken in October 1998 in combination with the national workshop on penitentiary policies. Third project monitoring mission to be undertaken in combination with February/March 1999 workshops in El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. The study on the penitentiary system in Guatemala is expected to be completed during 1999.

Argentina
ARG/95/AH/33. Strengthening Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 22 January 1996
Date of approval by Government: 14 February 1996
Project status: Ongoing
Government implementing agency: Under Secretariat of Human and Social Rights of the Ministry of Interior
OHCHR contribution: US\$ 335,257
Government contribution: US\$ 223,040

Activities: publication of two biannual journals; one provincial police training course; one course on reporting obligations; one training course for lawyers; one course for university teachers; one course for documentalists (August 1998); provision of human rights documentation. Project monitoring mission undertaken in August 1998. Independent final project evaluation to be undertaken during the second semester of 1999.

El Salvador
ELS/95/AH/10. Training and Documentation on Human Rights
ELS/95/AH/28. Police and Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 16 December 1996
Date of approval by Government: 6 January 1997
Project status: Ongoing
Government coordinating agency: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
OHCHR contributions: US\$ 1,325,637 and US\$ 456,836

Activities: advisory services on human rights policies, plans and programmes to Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Public Security, Legislative Assembly, the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU), the Salvadoran Institute for the Protection of Minors (ISPM), Armed Forces, Ministry of Justice, National Civilian Police, Police Academy and the Inspector General of the Police continued. Training activities: human rights training courses for military officers, police, penitentiary personnel and legislators continued; government officials and NGOs in charge of preparing reports to treaty monitoring bodies were trained and a consultation process for the elaboration of reports was established; government officials working with young offenders and minors under special circumstances continued. Fellowships: three police trainers and one local staff participated in a human rights course in Strasbourg (July 1998). Two trainers of the Military Academy participated in a human rights and humanitarian law seminar in San Remo (September 1998). Two police officers attended a human rights

training course in Spain. Project steering committee held its third and fourth meetings in January and July 1998, fifth meeting to be held at the end of January 1999. Project monitoring missions were combined with meetings and other project activities. Project director on consultations at OHCHR in Geneva in April and August 1998. Independent mid-term project evaluation to be undertaken in February 1999. Technical cooperation agreement will be reviewed during the first quarter of 1999. One year extension of agreement to consolidate cooperation under consideration.

Guatemala

GUA/96/AH/13/Add.1. Strengthening of National Capacities in the Field of Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 25 November 1996

Date of approval by Government: 11 December 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Ministry of External Relations, Ministry of Interior and COPREDEH (Presidential Human Rights Committee)

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 701,692

Activities: strengthening of the Office of the Ombudsman continued all throughout 1998. Group training activities on international instruments for the protection of human rights completed in March 1998. Support given to MINUGUA for the training of the civilian police continued. Internal monitoring mission undertaken in April 1998. Addendum to project prepared by OHCHR in August 1998 to adjust the planned activities in order to better meet the objectives. The project duration has been extended for 18 months.

Haiti

HAI/95/AH/03. Institutional Capacity-Building in the Legal Sector and Support to the National Truth Commission

Date of approval by OHCHR: 21 August 1997 (revised project document)

Date of approval by Government: 6 June 1997

Project status: Ongoing

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 728,986

Remarks: project activities agreed to be implemented by MICIVIH as of March 1998.

During its tenth session, BOT/VFTC recommended to review the arrangement for the implementation of project activities.

Paraguay
PAR/95/AH/35. Preparatory Assistance: Plan of Action for the
Elaboration and Implementation of National Policies on Human Rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 22 January 1996 (revised project document
approved 27 November 1996)

Date of approval by Government: March 1997

Project status: Completed

Government implementing agency: Human Rights Division of the Ministry of
Justice and Labour

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 91,594

Activities: advisory missions of international expert undertaken between
October 1997 and August 1998. One national consultant hired to support the
process of consultation. Publication of the report of an international
seminar on human rights policies completed and available.

Project monitoring mission undertaken in July 1998. Follow-up will be defined
after current Government adopts Human Rights National Plan of Action.

6. Arab States

48. The projects in the Arab States are the following:

Palestine
PAL/95/AH/24. Support for the Rule of Law

Date of approval by OHCHR: 24 April 1996

Date of approval by
Palestinian Authority: 17 April 1996

Project status: Ongoing

Government implementing agency: Palestinian National Authority

OHCHR contribution: US\$ 3,200,000

The project is being implemented through the OHCHR office in Gaza. A project
expansion was agreed in February 1998. The project is currently scheduled to
continue until December 1999.

Activities: 1. **Establishing a legal framework consistent with international
standards.** One fellowship for training on legal drafting (one month) for one
staff of the Ministry of Justice of the Palestinian Authority (February 1998);
provision of advisory services on the draft law on access of disabled people
to public buildings; financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian
Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR) for legal analysis of

drafts of public gathering, police force, and labour laws. PICCR organized several workshops with governmental and civil society representatives to discuss draft laws and formulate recommendations. Four publications were produced by PICCR containing the proceedings of the workshops on police and the use of force, public gatherings, the judiciary, and labour laws (January-November 1998); advisory services to the Palestinian Legislative Council on the formulation of the prison and judiciary laws. Laws adopted by the Council in June and November 1998, respectively (law on the judiciary is pending signature by the President of the Palestinian Authority); advisory services on the draft bar association law and participation in two workshops organized by the Palestinian Bar Association (January-November 1998); financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian Society for Legal Sciences to review the criminal procedure code and formulate recommendations for reform (August 1998); financial and technical assistance and documentation to the Law Institute of Bir Zeit University (BZLI) to conduct research on sources of legislation and formulate recommendations to the Palestinian legislators. The research was completed and two workshops were organized by BZLI in Gaza and the West Bank to discuss its results (September 1998). The final report is to be submitted. Financial and technical assistance to Mashirgiyyat (Oriental Horizons) to conduct legal research and consultations on the development of personal status laws (September 1998).

2. Development of an official policy on human rights. Development of a working paper and framework for the formulation of a Palestinian national plan of action for human rights, summarizing other countries' experience on national plans of action, proposing a participatory process for the definition of the plan, and compiling relevant international standards (September-November 1998); consultations with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, other ministries and civil society organizations on the development of the national plan of action (January-November 1998).

3. Strengthening national human rights structures for the promotion and protection of human rights. PICCR completed its activities under the first grant by OHCHR to strengthen its monitoring, research and outreach capacities through the establishment of field workers, and submitted its final report (March 1998). Second grant provided to continue and expand activities in this area (November 1998). Training to PICCR and members of non-governmental organizations on international human rights and humanitarian law (October 1998).

4. Non-governmental organizations. The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights completed its project under an OHCHR grant, including the establishment of a Women and Group Rights Unit to carry out research, legal aid and education activities on women's issues. Two publications on personal status law were produced. The Unit provided legal assistance to women's groups and individuals, and organized workshops for community organizations and representatives to raise awareness on women's rights. The final report of the project was received (April 1998). Participated in several NGO workshops on women, labour, disabled people, elections, social security, role of NGOs and the International Criminal Court (January-October 1998).

5. Police. Pocket Guide on Human Rights Standards for Palestinian Police with foreword by the President of the Palestinian Authority published (12,000 copies) and distributed to the Palestinian Police Force (March 1998); one advanced training course for 20 Palestinian police trainers on international human rights norms and system held in Geneva (April 1998); one training course for 25 police commanders in the West Bank completed (June-July 1998); one train-the-trainers course for 19 police officers held in Jericho

(August 1998); 20 sessions on human rights and law enforcement provided by OHCHR in training courses organized by all branches of the Palestinian Police Force or bilateral donors in Gaza and the West Bank (January-October 1998); ongoing assistance provided to police trainers in the organization and provision of human rights training to the Police Force and in the integration of human rights into regular police training (January-October 1998); nine working sessions with police trainers to review OHCHR training materials for the Palestinian Police Force held in Gaza (October 1998).

C. Field presences and technical cooperation

49. During the past few years, the involvement of OHCHR in field activities has significantly increased, ranging from the establishment of offices to supporting mandates of the Commission for Human Rights to offices with a technical cooperation and/or a monitoring mandate. Today, OHCHR has established the following 22 offices: Abkhazia (Georgia); Angola (with DPKO); Burundi; Cambodia; Central African Republic (DPKO); Colombia; Democratic Republic of the Congo; El Salvador; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Gaza; Guatemala; Liberia (Department of Political Affairs); Malawi; Mongolia; Sierra Leone (DPKO); South Africa; Southern Africa Regional Office and Togo. Most of them have a mandate for the provision of advisory services and/or for the implementation of technical cooperation projects. These field offices have allowed OHCHR to respond to requests for assistance by member States, develop cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies and programmes in the field as well as with international and national non-governmental organizations and training and academic institutions.

50. Field operations are substantively guided, monitored and periodically evaluated by the OHCHR through the Country Desk Officers and the newly established Field Methodology and Advisory Services Team of the Activities and Programmes Branch in the new OHCHR structure in place as of 1 February. Efforts to improve the OHCHR response to the field offices, both substantively and administratively, have included, during 1998, the recruitment of a short-term Special Adviser on Field Operations for the review of the field experiences, the preparation of a manual on human rights monitoring, the revision of the technical cooperation manual on procedures and guidelines; the adoption of guidelines for the elaboration of annual work plans and the preparation of monthly, quarterly and six-monthly reports of activities; the holding of a meeting of heads of field presences to exchange experiences in the field, the increased emphasis on transparent and effective recruitment procedures to secure qualified staff, and the signing of an agreement with UNOPS to provide administrative support to activities in the field.

51. The meeting of the heads of field presences, held in Geneva from 4 to 7 August 1998, allowed OHCHR an opportunity to discuss policy, organizational and methodological issues related to all field presences, for a constructive exchange of experiences between the various field presences and between Geneva and the field, for the identification of common challenges and issues, and for the consideration of ways and means to address them. The consolidation of the OHCHR policy, strategy and methodology in relation to field presences, including field presences with a technical cooperation

mandate, is a major challenge and a priority to enhance effectiveness. An Internal Task Force to follow up on the recommendations of the meeting will be established.

52. The consolidation of the substantive and administrative support to the field presences is an ongoing challenge for OHCHR, given the nature of the activities and the need to have an efficient but flexible mechanism that will allow OHCHR to respond to all the needs in the field in a prompt manner.

D. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation

53. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation in the African region are the following:

Regional - Africa. Strengthening Regional and National Capacities for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Southern Africa;

Cameroon. Needs assessment mission/project formulation mission undertaken on 10 to 17 December 1998. UNDP-OHCHR joint project for strengthening of the National Commission of Human Rights and the establishment of a Regional Human Rights Institute;

Chad. Preparatory Assistance for the Strengthening of Human Rights and Governance. Joint OHCHR-UNDP needs assessment mission undertaken from 24 March to 7 April and a project formulation mission from 2 to 13 October 1998. Activities are expected to start in early 1999;

Gabon. Development of National Capacities for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights. New request approved on 9 June 1998 by the project steering committee and BOT/VFTC. Project document signed by OHCHR on 10 November 1998 and sent to Government and UNDP for signature. Activities are expected to start in early 1999;

Guinea-Bissau. Technical Assistance on the Revision and Codification of Legislation Concerning the Family;

Lesotho. Support for Human Rights, Democracy and Rule of Law. Pending negotiation with Government;

Madagascar. New request for technical cooperation in strengthening of national capacities in the field of human rights approved on 9 June 1998 by the project steering committee and BOT/VFTC. Project document signed by OHCHR on 10 September 1998 and by Government and UNDP on 1 October 1998. Legal agreement under preparation. Activities are expected to start in early 1999;

Mali. Technical Assistance to the Government in View of Strengthening Human Rights Structures. 1997 needs assessment mission report was presented to the Government;

Mauritius. Mauritius (Administration of Justice): draft project document being prepared;

Niger. Joint OHCHR-UNDP needs assessment mission undertaken from 28 August to 4 September 1998. Report has been sent to Government for comments;

Sierra Leone. Strengthening Grass-Roots Human Rights Education Initiatives. Project document approved on 12 November 1998 by the project steering committee. Activities are expected to start early 1999;

Sao Tome and Principe. Strengthening National Capacities for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

Somalia. Project formulation mission undertaken from 31 October to 14 November 1998. Project is expected to initiate in early 1999 (two-year project);

Uganda. Support to Establish a National Institution. Project document signed by OHCHR in September 1998. Meeting of project committee convened by UNDP/OHCHR in September 1998. Implementation expected to start in early 1999;

United Republic of Tanzania. Strengthening Human Rights Capacities. Project document signed by the Government and UNDP in January 1998. Pending signature of OHCHR.

54. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation in the Asian and Pacific region are the following:

Regional projects - Asia and Pacific (3). Strengthening Cooperation in the Asian-Pacific Region and Promoting the Development and Strengthening of Human Rights Institutions; Promoting National Human Rights Institutions in Asia and the Pacific: Training Programme on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Promoting National Human Rights Institutions in Asia and the Pacific: Development of Training Programme on Investigatory Techniques. Projects presented to BOT/VFTC at its tenth session;

Indonesia. Support for the Implementation of Indonesia's National Plan of Action on Human Rights - Phase I. Memorandum of understanding signed by Government and OHCHR in October 1994. Project document presented to BOT/VFTC at its tenth session in November 1998 and approved by the project steering committee in November 1998. Technical cooperation will require the establishment of a field office to support all programmes and activities which are expected to start in early 1999;

Philippines. Protecting the Rights of Children in Conflict with the Law. Project formulation mission took place from 21 September to 3 October 1998. Project submitted during the tenth session of BOT/VFTC. Activities will start in early 1999. Project being implemented jointly by OHCHR and UNICEF;

Viet Nam. Administration of Juvenile Justice. Revision of the proposed project proposal has been agreed with the Government.

55. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation in the Central and Eastern European/CIS region are the following:

Regional - Central and Eastern Europe/CIS countries. Regional Programme for Institutional and Capacity Development on United Nations Human Rights Standards, Procedures and Reporting. Project document under preparation;

Belarus. Strengthening Capacities and Infrastructures for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Discussion to agree on project with UNDP and Government held in July 1998. Waiting for signature of Government;

Croatia. Strengthening Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Croatia. Project document endorsed by BOT/VFTC and approved by the project steering committee;

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Promotion of Human Rights. Project formulation mission undertaken in 1997;

Georgia. Capacity-Building of the Public Defender's Office. Financial support to a UNDP project on a national institution of human rights. Presented to the tenth session of BOT/VFTC;

Kazakhstan. Development of the National Human Rights Commission. Joint project with UNDP. Awaiting recommendation of the OHCHR Senior Adviser on National Institutions to determine participation;

Kyrgyzstan. Strengthening the Capacities in Electoral Administration and in Developing Human Rights Curricula. Project steering committee approved the project formulation mission in March 1998. Waiting for UNDP to set dates of mission;

Russian Federation. Human Rights Education Capacity Development. Signature of project document by Government awaited.

56. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation in the Latin American and Caribbean region are the following:

Regional - Latin America. Dissemination of the International and Regional Norms for Protection of Human Rights in the Americas. Pending further consultation with OAS. Project endorsed by BOT/VFTC at its ninth session;

Bolivia. Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Project document signed by OHCHR on 27 August 1998, by UNDP on 14 October 1998 and by Government on 9 November 1998. Mission to initiate project activities envisaged to take place in December 1998. Activities are expected to start in early 1999;

Chile. Interdisciplinary Programme on Ethics and Human Rights. Project document endorsed by BOT/VFTC at its ninth session. Project being finalized;

Ecuador. Strengthening National Capacities through the Implementation of the Human Rights National Plan of Action in Ecuador. Advisory mission of the OHCHR Senior Adviser on National Institutions took place in November 1998. Report of the mission to be presented in December 1998. Technical cooperation agreement to be defined.

57. Global technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation are the following:

GLO/97/AH/22. AIDS and Human Rights: Strengthening the Capacities of National Human Rights Institutions to Address the Human Rights Implication of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic. Joint project with UNAIDS. Administration of project to be finalized prior to submission to OHCHR for signature;

GLO/98/AH/21. To Protect and Promote the Right of Internally Displaced Persons by Strengthening and Building National Capacities for the Implementation of the Guiding Principles. Project submitted to the tenth session of BOT/VFTC in November 1998.

F. New requests received

58. New technical cooperation received from the African region are the following:

Botswana. Ongoing negotiations with Government. Joint UNDP-OHCHR programme;

Congo. Request for technical cooperation on human rights education introduced on 3 February 1998;

Djibouti. New request for technical cooperation presented in January 1998;

Mauritania. Request for needs assessment mission (December 1998);

Tunisia. Arab Institution of Human Rights presented a request for funding.

59. New technical cooperation received from the Asian and Pacific region are the following:

Bangladesh. Requested assistance for technical cooperation in July 1998;

China. Provision of human rights documentation;

Islamic Republic of Iran. New request for technical cooperation in the field of human rights education presented in October 1998. Request under consideration.

60. New technical cooperation received from the Latin American and Caribbean region are the following:

Regional. Domestic Violence: Development and Testing of a Training Manual for Law Enforcement Officials. Proposal submitted and endorsed by BOT/VFTC at its tenth session in November 1998. Project to be implemented jointly with ILANUD. Countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay;

Brazil. Request for training of the police. Presented in 1997 and reiterated on 5 February 1998;

Nicaragua. Right to Security: Preventive Police-Community and Human Rights Actions. Project submitted and endorsed by BOT/VFTC at its tenth session in November 1998;

Panama. Request for training police on handling of domestic violence. Assistance will be covered by above-mentioned regional project to be implemented with ILANUD;

Venezuela. National Commission of Human Rights requested technical assistance on 27 April 1998. UNDP requested funding for human rights activities on 11 May 1998; possibilities for technical cooperation activities should be foreseen in 1999;

Peru. Request for technical assistance presented by the Ministry of Justice. Project steering committee approved a needs assessment mission in August 1998. Dates for mission pending;

Peru. Request for assistance presented by the Defensoría del Pueblo in September 1998. Joint initiative with UNDP;

Mexico. Request for assistance presented by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Consultations with Government have been initiated for a possible needs assessment mission.

Notes

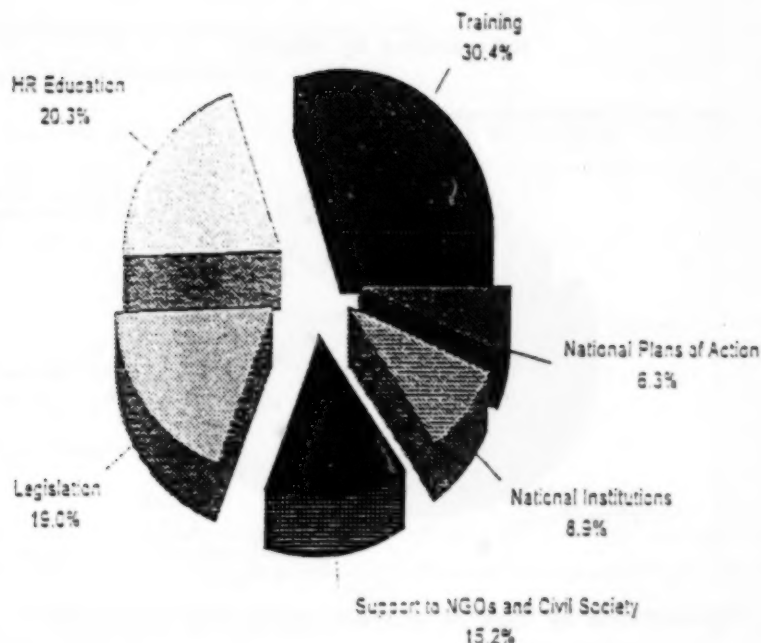
1/ Detailed information on OHCHR technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights is available on the OHCHR Website (<http://www.unhchr.ch>), the quarterly status report on technical cooperation in the field of human rights, the quarterly status report on contributions to the VFTC, reports of the sessions of the BOT/VFTC; the compilation of project fact sheets, monthly, quarterly and six-monthly reports of field presence and separate reports of all seminars, training activities and workshops.

2/ All projects are funded from the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, unless otherwise indicated.

3/ The report of the technical cooperation activities of the field office in Cambodia is available as a separate document (E/CN.4/1999/100).

Annex I

1998 Country Projects Focus



Education: formal education activities, training for teachers, curricula development, establishment of information and documentation centres.

Legislation: assistance in reforming national legislation according to international standards as identified in United Nations and regional human rights instruments; may include training for national parliaments.

National Institutions: assistance in establishing and strengthening national Human Rights Commissions; may include training and assistance to legislative bodies.

National Plans of Action: assistance in elaboration and implementation of National Plans of Action.

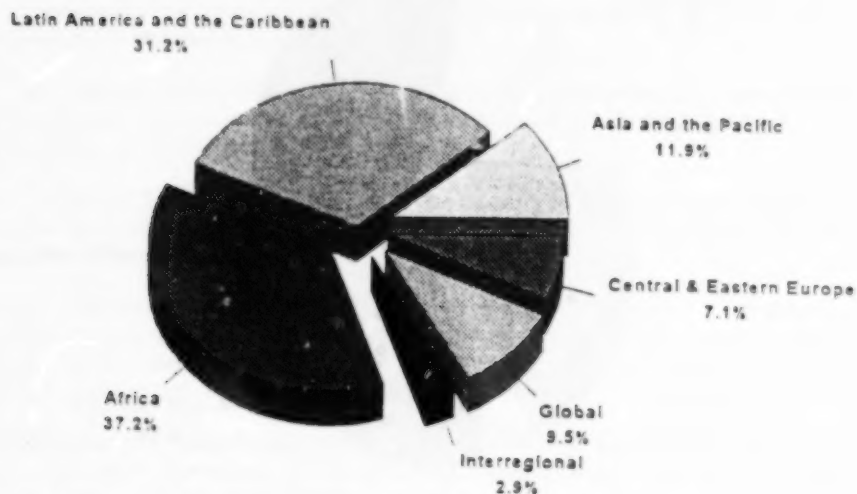
Training: courses for law enforcement officials, judges, lawyers, prosecutors, police, prison and government officials, and the armed forces.

Support to NGO and Civil Society: activities involving NGOs as beneficiaries (e.g. grants) and participants (e.g. seminars, support to NGO projects).

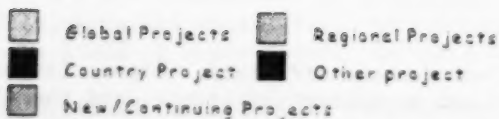
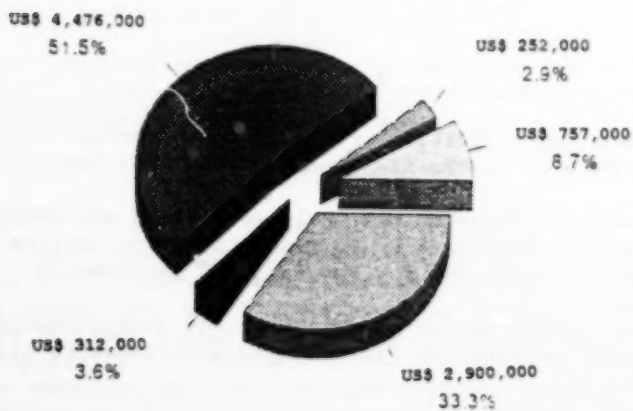
Annex II

1998 Technical Cooperation Budgetary Allocations

Allocations by region



Allocations by type of project (total US\$ 8,732,957)



Annex III

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of
Human Rights: annual balance sheet as of 30 November 1998 (US\$) a/

1997			
1.	Income		
	Previous balance as of 31 December 1997		4 275 487
	Unliquidated obligations as of 1997		2 281 471
		Balance	1 994 016
1998			
	1998 Paid contributions (b/) (c/)		7 076 409
	Interest		242 941
		Total	7 319 350
		Total income	9 313 366
2.	1998 Expenditures		
	1998 Allotments		6 308 300
	Programme support costs 13%		820 079
		Total expenditures	7 128 379
3.	Fund balance		2 184 987
1999			
4.	Budgetary requirements for 1999		19 347 645
4.1	Ongoing projects		
	(Financial requirements to carry out ongoing project activities; see annex 1)		12 578 182
4.2	Pipeline projects		
	(Total budget of the project proposals in the advanced stage of preparation; see annex 2)		6 769 463
5.	Funding requirements		
5.1	Funding requirements for ongoing projects only (3-4.1)		(10 393 195)
5.2	Overall funding requirements (4-5)		(17 162 658)

a/ This balance sheet has been prepared by the secretariat of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation. As such, it should not be considered a United Nations official financial document.

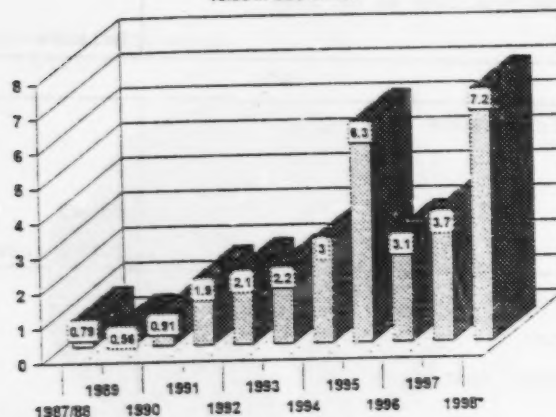
b/ Pledges not included (amounting to US\$ 1,518,519).

c/ Contributions paid directly to UNOPS not included (amounting to US\$ 1,109,545).

Annex IV

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in
the Field of Human Rights: yearly contributions as of
17 November 1998

Contribution to the VFTC by Year
value in US\$ million







**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
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E/CN.4/1999/99/Corr.1
21 April 1999

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 19

ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Paragraph 1

The last sentence should read as follows:

The present interim report covers activities in 1998.



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1999/100
3 February 1999

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-fifth session
Item 19 of the provisional agenda

ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of
Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. The Cambodia office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (COHCHR) was set up in October 1993, pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/6, to ensure a continued United Nations human rights presence in Cambodia upon the departure of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). The human rights operational presence is mandated by the Commission to:

(a) Manage the implementation of educational and technical assistance and advisory services programmes and to ensure their continuation;

(b) Assist the Government of Cambodia established after the election, at its request, in meeting its obligations under the human rights instruments recently acceded to, including the preparation of reports to the relevant monitoring committees;

(c) Provide support to bona fide human rights groups in Cambodia;

(d) Contribute to the creation and/or strengthening of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

(e) Continue to assist with the drafting and implementation of legislation to promote and protect human rights;

(f) Continue to assist with the training of persons responsible for the administration of justice.

2. The Cambodia office was also requested to provide support to the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights in Cambodia, who is mandated to: (a) maintain contact with the Government and people of Cambodia; (b) guide and coordinate the United Nations human rights presence in Cambodia; and (c) assist the Government in the promotion and protection of human rights.

3. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1998/60, welcomed the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia and her visit to Cambodia in January 1998.

4. The Commission requested the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the enhanced functioning of the Cambodia office. The Commission also welcomed the agreement by the Government to extend the mandate of the Cambodia office.

5. The Secretary-General was requested to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session on the role of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights. The present report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 27 of resolution 1998/60.

6. Subsequently, on 9 December 1998, the General Assembly adopted resolution 53/145 on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, in which it welcomed the report of the Secretary-General, in particular the section concerning the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

I. OVERVIEW OF 1998 ACTIVITIES

7. The political climate in 1998 was overshadowed by the events of July 1997, with many opposition politicians remaining outside the country for several months. As a result, the National Assembly functioned at a much reduced level, and the work of ministries was hampered by political uncertainties and a lack of direction. The office's technical assistance activities inevitably slowed down as a result, but nevertheless many programmes registered useful achievements.

8. The preparation of the elections and the post-election period effectively covered the whole year, since the new Government was not installed until late November. All units in the office were involved in one way or another with election-related activities. The Legal Assistance Unit assisted with the drafting of the legal framework for the elections and worked with the National Election Committee on regulations and procedures. The Education, Training and Information Unit drafted a curriculum on democracy and free and fair elections which was used for training the armed forces, the police and local election officials. The office's monitoring capacity was expanded by the addition of six mobile monitoring teams and an analysis unit which collected, analysed and compiled information on election-related violence and intimidation into a series of seven reports, published on behalf of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. Two substantial reports on the access of opposition parties to the media were also produced. All these monitoring reports were translated and distributed widely both in Khmer and in English.

9. The office cooperated extensively with other organizations and bodies involved in the election process, including the United Nations-supported Electoral Assistance Unit, the Office of the Secretary-General's Personal Representative and the monitors attached to that Office, UNDP as the coordinator of assistance to the election process, and with domestic and foreign observers and a host of visitors with an interest in the process. During August and September, when a series of street demonstrations took place and were suppressed by the armed forces, the office's involvement took on a different form, with most office staff participating in the daily and nightly observation of events in the streets of Phnom Penh, with the objective of reducing the level of violence and preventing confrontation wherever possible. The office worked to protect and assist demonstrators who were beaten or threatened by police and ethnic Vietnamese minorities who were sometimes threatened by the demonstrators. During this period, the office issued six statements drawing the attention of the authorities and demonstrators alike to potential sources of conflict.

10. Throughout the year, the COHCHR maintained close contact with the Cambodian authorities on a wide range of human rights issues. During the High Commissioner's January visit, the issue of the memorandum of understanding

governing the Cambodia office was raised. The initial memorandum covered the period March 1996-March 1998. In May, the Government agreed to the High Commissioner's proposal to extend it for a further two years until March 2000. In June, the Government established by decree the Cambodian Human Rights Committee, with two main functions: investigation of human rights violations, including those documented by the Special Representative in his memoranda to the Government of August 1997 and May 1998, and the preparation of draft legislation leading to the establishment of an independent National Human Rights Commission. The office and the Special Representative remain in regular contact with the Committee and technical assistance will be provided where appropriate.

11. During 1998, the office continued to provide extensive support to the work of the Special Representative, Mr. Thomas Hammarberg. As well as the joint visit which he made with the High Commissioner in January, he made four other visits to Cambodia in 1998. During each of these visits, he met senior officials of the Royal Government of Cambodia, principally the First and Second Prime Ministers, the co-Ministers of the Interior and of Defence, and officials of the Ministries of Justice and Information. During the year, he was also granted two audiences with His Majesty the King. He regularly met opposition politicians, NGO representatives and members of the diplomatic corps. Arrangements for his visits are made by COHCHR, which is also responsible for supporting him by providing background material for his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and to the General Assembly. These reports are distributed widely by the office both in English and in Khmer, as are copies of the Commission and General Assembly resolutions.

12. In addition to the visits of the Special Representative, the office also provided support to two other important missions. In April, two experts in criminal investigation (Prof. Peter Burns and Mr. Arun Bhagat) visited Cambodia at the invitation of the Government to assess the status of investigations into the grenade attack of March 1997 and into the killings reported by the office after the July 1997 fighting. Their report proved to be a useful stimulus for renewed discussions with the Government on the need for an overall reform of the administration of justice. In November, the office provided assistance to the group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General to evaluate the evidence of violations of international and humanitarian law by the Khmer Rouge and to propose measures to bring about national reconciliation, strengthening democracy and addressing the issue of individual accountability.

13. In March, the Office received the visit of Mr. Ian Martin, Special Adviser to the High Commissioner on field presences. The report prepared by Mr. Martin contains a number of valuable recommendations on the office's programme and its management which are progressively being implemented by the Office. The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), a major donor to the Cambodia Trust Fund, carried out an ad hoc assessment of the office's work in June, and the office also received a visit from the SIDA Desk Officer in November. These SIDA assessments have resulted in a renewal of the current level of funding for the office's activities.

14. Several staffing changes have taken place within COHCHR, with the arrival of a new Director in January, a new Human Rights Officer for the Legal

Assistance Unit and a new Administrative Officer in April-May. The Human Rights Officer working with NGOs left in late 1998. Several of the UN Volunteers who had been working in the Phnom Penh office and in the provincial office network came to the end of their contracts, as did all six of the Judicial Mentors. Identification and recruitment of replacements for this large number of people is time-consuming and protracted. Recruitment for the long-vacant post of Chief of the Legal Assistance Unit is not yet complete.

II. ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMBODIA IN 1998

A. Assistance in legislative reform

15. COHCHR carries out numerous activities for the creation, strengthening and support of a legal framework consistent with international human rights norms and for securing the promotion and protection of human rights and democracy.

16. The National Assembly and its committees were not active for around seven months of 1998, owing to the elections in July and political deadlock both before and after the elections. Thus, the consideration and adoption of many laws have been delayed. Nevertheless, the office provided technical assistance to the National Assembly and its committees, to the Royal Government and its various ministries, and to civil society institutions, including NGO and media organizations and groups concerning the drafting of the following laws:

(a) Law on associations and non-governmental organizations. This law's purpose is to protect the rights and freedom of establishment of associations and non-governmental organizations and to regulate their activities. With a group of NGOs, the office prepared comments on the draft, which was discussed extensively during 1996 and 1997. In August 1998, a new draft which presented difficulties with regard to freedom of association was circulated. The Special Representative met with co-Minister of the Interior Sar Kheng, and raised his concerns about it. The Minister stated that he was in favour of returning to the less restrictive 1996 draft and the Office has since learned that the Ministry of the Interior has decided not to promote the 1998 draft. The office is collaborating with the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) and national human rights organizations for further action to promote the passage of the 1996/1997 draft;

(b) Law on Disability. The draft law on disability addresses the rights of the disabled, including non-discrimination, health and safety. The draft is still being discussed with NGOs and associations of disabled persons;

(c) Law on the Statute of Magistrates. This law establishes fundamental principles relating to the independence of the judiciary as well as the impartiality, competence and honesty of magistrates. The office participated in working sessions on the revised text, convened in August 1998 by the International Human Rights Law Group. Comments on the draft law from these sessions will be sent to the Ministry of Justice shortly;

(d) Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure. The Code of Criminal Procedure establishes rules to be respected in all stages of criminal proceedings. The Penal Code defines criminal offences. After their review in 1997 by a consultant employed by the office, the Ministry of Justice sent the draft Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure to France to be revised by French magistrates. Both drafts have recently been returned to Cambodia, and the office has secured the agreement of the Minister of Justice to obtain copies of both for review and comment before they are sent to the Council of Ministers;

(e) Law on the National Human Rights Commission. A draft law on the creation of an independent National Human Rights Commission was created in late 1997 by the office together with human rights NGOs. The office participated in meetings with NGOs and the Minister of Justice on the issue in early 1998. In June 1998, a provisional committee for human rights (called the Cambodian Human Rights Committee) was created by sub-decree; one of its tasks is to draw up a law to create an independent national human rights commission. The office submitted a copy of the 1997 draft to the Cambodian Human Rights Committee. In late 1998, after the formation of the new Government, several donors and NGOs expressed interest in renewing discussion on the creation of an independent National Human Rights Commission. The office will do its best to encourage such discussion in coordination with the Ministry of Justice;

(f) Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence. The Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence reached the Council of Ministers in late 1997. It is apparently still being studied by the Council of Jurists. The office will continue to seek support for this legislation which is crucial in order to improve the situation of Cambodian women;

(g) Land Law. The Council of Ministers approved the drafting of a Land Law to replace the 1992 State of Cambodia Law. The office was recently provided with a copy of the draft and is currently studying it. The office will also participate in discussions on the draft law organized by NGOs interested in land access and land titling issues;

(h) Sub-legislation on the press: sub-decree (Anukret) and proclamation. These executive acts implement the Press Law. In January 1998, the Ministry of Information requested the office to comment on two executive acts to be issued under the Press Law: a sub-decree defining national security and political stability and a proclamation on press identification and registration. The office expressed concern over both acts and provided detailed comments to the Ministry, particularly on their repercussions on freedom of expression and the press. Similar concerns were raised by the Human Rights Action Committee, an NGO coalition, and Reporters without Borders (Rapporteurs sans frontières). The executive acts were not adopted;

(i) Assistance on implementation of laws. The office continues to monitor the implementation of laws in order to ensure that their application is in conformity with international human rights standards. The office monitored the implementation of the Law on the Constitutional Council, namely the selection and appointment procedure of its members by the King, the Supreme Council of Magistracy and the National Assembly. Deficiencies in this

process were reported to the Secretary-General through his Special Representative in the context of the observation by the United Nations of the electoral process. The office also monitored the implementation of the laws on nationality; immigration; labour; and suppression of kidnapping, trafficking, sale and exploitation of human beings, through the monitoring of court cases and the exchange and provision of information and advice to Government Officials and local NGOs;

(j) Political Parties Law. The office also closely monitored the implementation of the Political Parties Law adopted in October 1997. Discussions were held with Ministry of Interior officials regarding the process for registration of political parties. The requirement to supply information about party members (such as gender and profession) in addition to the requirements originally stipulated in the Political Parties Law was challenged. Obstacles created by local authorities to the opening by political parties of offices and to the raising of signboards were reported to the Ministry. The problem of competing factions of the same party trying to register under the same name was also raised. A Ministry of Interior circular issued in February and including provisions contrary to the Constitution and the Political Parties Law was discussed;

(k) Election law. The implementation of the Election Law was closely monitored. The process of selection and appointment of members of the National Election Committee (NEC) and Provincial Election Commissions (PECs) was documented. Issuances by the NEC, such as rules and regulations, manuals and instructions, were analysed and amendments to improve their consistency with international human rights standards proposed to the NEC. The office expressed its concern over amendments to the Election Law which were intended to reduce the period allowed for appeals. However, it supported amendments which changed the site of the ballot counting from village (polling station) to commune level;

(l) Law on the Constitutional Council. This law lays down the organization and functioning of the Constitutional Council which has as its objective to guarantee protection and respect for the Constitution, to interpret the Constitution and laws, and to consider and decide disputes relating to the election of members of the National Assembly. The office was invited to participate in the relevant parliamentary committee as an adviser and succeeded in making some changes regarding provisions which were in conflict with the Constitution. The Law on the Constitutional Council was adopted on 19 March 1998. Members were then appointed, but the Council has still to become fully operational and was not able to fulfil its mandate in respect of disputes related to the elections.

B. Administration of justice

The Judicial Mentor Programme

17. The Judicial Mentor Programme has been under way since October 1995, in close cooperation with UNDP/Office of Project Services (UNDP/OPS) which provides administrative and financial support. The main objectives of the Judicial Mentor Programme are to improve the administration and quality of justice through the provision of daily advice and assistance to the courts; to

contribute to the improvement of the effectiveness of the judicial system by improving the capacity of Cambodian courts to coordinate with the police, prison officials, military and provincial administration, and to provide a basis for identifying further ways to upgrade the judicial system, including through law reform, in conformity with international human rights standards. A summary document on the objectives and achievements of the JMP was produced in September and was used for fund-raising purposes, and for the tripartite review of the project organized by UNDP/OPS in December involving the Ministry of Justice, UNDP/OPS and COHCHR in mid-December.

18. During 1998, eight provincial and municipal courts had a judicial mentor stationed in them. The mentors are experienced lawyers from other countries, each aided by a Cambodian assistant. The courts where mentors are posted continue to receive modest amounts of material assistance and equipment to improve their effectiveness. In order to expand the benefits of the Judicial Mentor Programme to other courts, the opening of some new offices and the closure of those offices which have operated for a number of years is being considered. Recruitment of a new group of mentors began in late 1998.

19. The Ministry of Justice has continued to give full support to the programme and has recently renewed its request that the office expand the programme.

Prison issues

20. The Office continues to provide advice and assistance on the legal framework governing prisons and on the legal and physical conditions of detention.

21. The Prison Proclamation (prakas), signed by the co-Ministers of Interior in March 1998, constitutes the legal basis for the operation of Cambodia's prisons. The Office provided comments and suggested some new provisions to the Prisons Department of the Ministry of Interior.

22. The Prison Procedures provide guidelines for the administration of prisons. These procedures are being drafted as part of a project supporting prison reform financed by Australian Aid (AusAID). Drafts of new procedures are regularly sent to the office for comment before finalization.

23. In 1998, the office made numerous visits to prisons in Cambodia to monitor the physical and legal conditions of detention and to ensure their consistency with national and international human rights norms. Advice has been provided to the judiciary and to prison officials on issues such as excessive pre-trial detention. In close cooperation with national NGOs, the office has assisted many detainees in obtaining legal representation. In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and national and international NGOs, the office has also contributed to alleviating the problems of inadequate health care and food, and the poor physical infrastructure of prisons in Cambodia.

24. The office prepares for briefing the Special Representative on the prison situation throughout the country, in particular, delays in the allocation of funds to provincial prisons for purchase of food rations for

prisoners, shortages of medicines, illegal conditions of detention, shackling and other mistreatment of prisoners, prison escapes, and the lack of investigation into the killing and deaths of prisoners.

Confidential reports to the Government

25. The office continued to submit confidential reports to the Government relating both to individual cases of human rights violations and to broader issues. The objective of such reporting is to assist the Government in the effective investigation of violations and in the implementation of law and the administration of justice.

26. Following the presentation in August 1997 by the Special Representative of a memorandum on killings and disappearances in the wake of the July fighting, a second memorandum was presented to the Government in May. A report prepared by two experts in criminal investigation, who visited Cambodia to assess progress on the investigations into the March 1997 grenade attack and the post-July killings, was presented at the same time.

27. Other confidential communications to the Government by the office in 1998 included a letter in January about a human trafficking network in Koh Kong. In June, the office wrote to the Minister of Defence about a case in which members of the Royal Gendarmerie had surrounded the Municipal Court in Phnom Penh and threatened officials to prevent them releasing two murder suspects, against whom the court had found no evidence. The Court was forced to take the two men into preventive detention because of fears for their safety. Two gendarmes were subsequently arrested but were then released on bail. Also in June, the office wrote about the arrest and subsequent imprisonment of an individual whose family had rented property to an opposition political party, and against whom dubious charges had been brought. The individual was subsequently released on appeal but was rearrested in November.

28. Letters were sent in June about the proposed banning of public demonstrations, and in July in connection with the beating of six people, including the husband of an opposition activist while in custody. In July, the office wrote to the Ministry of the Interior protesting about a case in Koh Kong where police had prevented the hearing of a land dispute in which one of the parties was the wife of the Chief of the Judicial Police. In November, information was provided to the general prosecutor about the beating to death of a young prostitute by a brothel owner in Banteay Meanchey province. Despite extensive eyewitness testimony, the accused man had apparently been released for lack of evidence.

29. During the election period, the office provided the Government with seven reports on election-related violence and intimidation, and also supplied a report on violent deaths recorded in and around Phnom Penh during the period of opposition protests. Lists of people reported as detained during the demonstrations and subsequently missing were provided to the Government on two occasions.

30. In December, the office wrote to the Ministries of Social Affairs and the Interior and to the Phnom Penh municipality about the legal and humanitarian issues surrounding an illegal holding centre for destitute people on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, and calling for its closure.

C. National institutions for the promotion
and protection of human rights

31. The Chairman of the National Assembly Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints, which had been extensively supported both with technical and material assistance by the office, left the country after the July fighting and returned in early 1998. In effect, the Commission ceased to function after his departure. He lost his seat at the July election and a new Chairman and members of the Commission were appointed in late November. The office will establish contact with them.

32. Discussion on legislation leading to the establishment of an independent National Human Rights Commission, in which the office had been very much involved, came to a halt in February. The office is currently involved in preliminary contacts on reviving these discussions, using as a starting point the draft law prepared in 1997 by human rights NGOs and the office.

D. Treaty reporting and international obligations

33. In 1997, the Royal Government of Cambodia, with the assistance of the Cambodia office, submitted its reports under three conventions: the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

34. Unfortunately, owing to political difficulties, illness, and the prolonged absences of the Minister of Justice and Secretary of State of the Ministry of Justice, who chair the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Reporting Obligations, no work was done in 1998 on the Inter-Ministerial review of the reports which were due on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. As the new Government becomes fully operational in early 1999, the Cambodia office will work with the newly appointed officials to complete initial reports on these two conventions and to assist the Government in preparing for the reviews by the treaty bodies scheduled for 1999 on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

35. With the continued assistance and support of the Cambodia office, the Inter-Ministerial Subcommittee on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights prepared a draft of the initial report on the implementation of the Covenant, which now awaits review by the Inter-Ministerial Committee.

36. The office continued to provide support to the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Reporting Obligations, and assisted it in

preparing an illustrated booklet on the Convention against Torture, which will be distributed in 1999 as part of an effort by the Inter-Ministerial Committee to train local officials on the provisions of the Convention.

E. Assistance to human rights NGOs

37. Pursuant to its mandate to support the development of civil society and to provide support to bona fide non-governmental organizations, the Cambodia office continued in 1998 its substantial programme of support and assistance to non-governmental organizations active in the field of human rights. This support takes the form of financial grants from the Trust Fund for Human Rights Education in Cambodia, training on substantive human rights issues, and training and the provision of consultants on organization and management practices designed to enhance the prospects for long-term sustainability of these NGOs.

38. In 1998, grants of more than US\$ 250,000 were provided to 16 organizations working in the areas of human rights education for targeted sectors of the population and on the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children and minorities, and labour rights. This COHCHR programme of NGO support is funded through earmarked contributions to the Trust Fund from DANIDA, an agency of the Government of Denmark (see the annex for an itemization of awards under this grant programme).

39. To encourage human rights activities at the local level, the Cambodia office provided additional grants in the amount of nearly US\$ 400,000 to support the provincial- and district-level offices of the core human rights NGOs which are involved in both human rights education and monitoring and investigation activities. Where there are provincial offices of COHCHR, the local human rights NGOs work closely with them. These grants enable core human rights NGOs to expand their outreach, contacts and educational and monitoring activities at the district, commune and village levels. Most of this programme is funded by unearmarked contributions to the Trust Fund, although in 1998 a grant for this purposes of US\$ 100,000 was made by the Netherlands, administered through UNDP/OPS.

40. The contribution of NGOs to Cambodia's social, economic and political development has been widely noted, especially the NGO contributions this year to the electoral process through voter education programmes and a very extensive election observation effort. Through the programme of support described above, the implementation of which is continuously monitored, COHCHR makes an important contribution to the development of civil society in Cambodia.

Children's rights issues

41. Terms of reference were prepared for a staff position on children's rights issues that will be initiated next year. This programme, based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, will be conducted in cooperation with UNICEF and will focus on combating child trafficking and sexual exploitation, and on the construction of a juvenile justice system in Cambodia.

Assessment of NGO provincial action committees

42. Over the last two years, the Cambodia office encouraged collaborative efforts between various local NGOs working in the provinces in investigating, reporting on and intervening in difficult cases of human rights violations, and in efforts to provide assistance to victims. This past year, the office undertook an assessment of the work of these provincial action committees.

43. Nine provinces were visited. In general, cooperation between NGOs at the provincial level in tackling more difficult cases is working well. The main problem identified was a variation in the use of reporting formats, which was resolved through an agreement to use a common reporting format in all provinces.

F. Education and training programmes and curriculum developmentEducation and training in the former Khmer Rouge zones

44. The human rights education programme, initiated in 1997 at the request of the Government in areas formerly under Khmer Rouge control, achieved full implementation during 1998. Staff from Phnom Malai and Pailin, the main districts of the former Khmer Rouge areas, were recruited and trained immediately prior to the July elections. The two district-level offices of COHCHR were formally opened in September.

45. The programmes carried out by the Phnom Malai and Pailin offices provide a variety of human rights information and education to targeted sectors of the population - police, military, teachers, monks, commune leaders, women and other vulnerable groups - in areas of Cambodia that were previously not within the effective jurisdiction of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The programme includes funds to enable governmental and non-governmental partners of the office engaged in human rights education to travel to these areas to conduct programmes on law and human rights on an accelerated basis. This effort is funded by a special UNDP fund for projects in former areas of conflict. It is hoped that it will be possible to introduce comparable programmes in the other former Khmer Rouge territories that have now achieved reconciliation and integration with the Government.

Indigenous peoples' rights

46. Technical cooperation with the Inter-ministerial Committee on Highland Peoples Development continued through the first half of 1998. Curricula for a three-day village community workshop and a five-day institutional district workshop Curricula for a land rights action research project for Ratanakiri Province were prepared in cooperation with the human rights NGO, ADHOC, which conducts such training with the support of the Trust Fund.

47. This education and training project is part of a larger cooperative effort between the government authorities in Rattanakiri Province, the Provincial Land Titles Department, UNDP-CARERE (Cambodian Resettlement and Regeneration project), and NGOs. Its aim is to preserve the highly vulnerable livelihood, culture and environment of Cambodia's indigenous highland populations.

Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF)

48. For three years, the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces Human Rights Training Programme has continued to be a priority activity of COHCHR. In 1998, this training was conducted in five additional provinces and municipalities compared with 1997, and 12 additional officers were trained as human rights instructors, bringing the total number of instructors to 40. In 1998, an election year, greater emphasis was placed on the role of the armed forces in promoting Cambodia's democracy by integrating a new section into the training curriculum on the link between human rights and free and fair elections. As in previous years, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) conducted one-day sessions on international humanitarian law immediately following the three-day human rights training programmes. The office is also in the process of upgrading the training curriculum to include more extensive sections on children and women's rights.

49. Since the beginning of this programme in 1995, approximately 12,500 officers and soldiers have completed the courses. In September 1998, the office, in cooperation with the Training Directorate of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces, held a two-day workshop to assess the training and to promote an improved rapport between regional commanding officers and human rights instructors.

Royal Gendarmerie

50. As noted in the 1997 report, the office suspended the Royal Gendarmerie Human Rights and Law Training programme after the fighting in July 1997. In September 1998, the decision was made to begin the training again for a six-month trial period. A four-day retraining of trainers workshop was conducted in December 1998 for the same gendarmes trained as human rights instructors in 1997. They then returned to their respective provinces and municipalities to begin conducting human rights and law workshops for the gendarmerie. Assisting Royal Gendarmerie human rights instructors are trainers of three human rights non-governmental organizations, Vigilance, Adhoc and Licadho, who were also trained by the office.

51. Before restarting the gendarmerie training, the office upgraded the training curriculum which it had developed in 1997. It now includes sections on children and women's rights and on a recently passed Cambodian law, the Law on General Statutes for Military Personnel of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces. It also incorporates an international standard translated into Khmer by the office, the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.

Police

52. Human rights training of law enforcement officials began in early 1995 and has continued since then. Trained by the office and utilizing a curriculum developed by the Office, ADHOC, LICADHO and Vigilance have conducted hundreds of five-day human rights and law workshops with approximately 40 law enforcement officials as participants in each.

53. As has already been done with the RCAF and gendarmerie training, the curriculum will be upgraded by including new sections on children and women's rights and the addition of relevant Cambodian laws and international human rights standards.

54. The office finalized the drafting of a Police Pocket Guide in 1998. The Guide details the basic duties and responsibilities of the police according to Cambodian law and international human rights standards. It covers principles on the use of force and firearms, conducting investigations and searches, making arrests, conducting interrogations and holding suspects in detention. There is also a section that gives an overview of Cambodia's judicial system. In early 1999, thousands of Guides will be printed and distributed to law enforcement officials throughout Cambodia.

Human rights training of prison officials

55. The Cambodia office assisted the Cambodia Criminal Justice Assistance Project in training prison officials, a project supported by AusAID. The office conducted four training sessions for prison officials on human rights and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. In total, 123 prison officials, including most directors and deputies of provincial and municipal prisons, were trained.

Training on human rights and suppression of kidnapping, trafficking and exploitation of human persons

56. The Cambodia office developed a curriculum on human rights and suppression of kidnapping, trafficking and exploitation of human persons in 1998. This curriculum will be utilized by the provincial offices of COHCHR and local NGOs to train villagers. In October 1998, the office trained trainers of a local NGO, Rural Agricultural Development and Democracy, on the utilization of the curriculum, which they have begun to use.

Human rights training for Buddhist monks

57. The office continued to support human rights training of Buddhist monks in 1998. A local NGO, Khmer Buddhist Society, coordinated this training in all provinces. In 1996 and 1997, the office had assisted in developing the training curriculum and in training monks to train other monks on the interrelationship between Buddhism and human rights. Approximately 3,000 monks were trained in 1998. Grants from the Trust Fund were made to support this training as well as to the local NGO Cambodia Institute for Human Rights, which drafted a human rights curriculum for Buddhist schools.

Minority rights training

58. With continued financial support and technical assistance from the office in 1998, two local NGOs, Cham Khmer Islam Minority Human Rights and Development Association and Khmer Kampuchea Krom Human Rights and Development Association, trained over 2,000 ethnic Chams and hundreds of ethnic Vietnamese on minority rights in a number of provinces and Phnom Penh. Each training consisted of three-day workshops utilizing a curriculum developed by the office in 1996.

HIV/AIDS anti-discrimination training

59. In 1998, the office continued its financial support to HIV/AIDS anti-discrimination training. In 1996, the office trained the local NGO Mission of Generous Cambodian Alliance to conduct training using the curriculum developed by the office. This training targets the staff of hospitals and medical clinics, and over 300 people were trained in 1998.

Labour rights training

60. The final draft of the Labour Rights Training curriculum was developed by the office in early 1998. Using this curriculum, the office trained trainers of a local NGO, the Cambodian Labour Organization. In turn, CLO used the curriculum to train workers on relevant national laws, including the Cambodian Labour Code and the international standards that promote and protect labour rights.

61. The Labour Rights Training curriculum also focuses on the process of organizing independent free trade unions, and includes draft models of a trade union charter and by-laws. CLO is assisting workers from different factories in organizing independent free trade unions, and received funding from the office to conduct training and to engage a lawyer to represent workers. The office is currently working with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to conduct labour rights training in 1999 for government labour inspectors.

Training on human rights and law, democracy and free and fair elections

62. Early in 1998, the Cambodia office developed a curriculum to provide general human rights training for Cambodian citizens. It covers the rule of law, relevant national and international laws, what constitutes a genuine democracy, human rights and free and fair elections, and how to redress election-related violations of human rights. Three five-day training of trainers workshops were conducted by the office for three local NGOs, Khmer Kampuchea Krom Human Rights Association, Cambodian Human Rights and Democracy Organization and Human Rights Protection and Rural Development Association. These organizations then began dozens of five-day training workshops on human rights and law, democracy, and free and fair elections in the run-up to the elections.

63. Also in 1998, the office completed curriculum development on those human rights directly associated with promoting and protecting a genuine democracy and promoting free and fair elections. This curriculum was utilized by COHCHR and its provincial offices in conducting one-day training for over 1,000 provincial and communal election officials before the 1998 elections, in cooperation with the National Election Commission. The curriculum was also integrated into the established general human rights training programmes for local NGOs and for the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces Human Rights Training.

Assessing the quality of the training programmes assisted and supported by COHCHR

64. The vast majority of training programmes are conducted by human rights trainers/instructors from NGOs and government institutions who were originally

trained by the office. Most of those organizations and institutions receive funding support from the Trust Fund. To assess those training programmes, staff of the office and its provincial offices observe training courses while they are in progress, and advice is given to upgrade the quality of training.

G. Information and documentation

65. The Cambodia office remains a major producer and distributor of human rights-related materials. Those materials included international human rights instruments, memorandum and election reports issued by the Special Representative, relevant domestic laws, training curricula, and free and fair elections posters developed by the office. In 1998, approximately 80,000 human rights-related documents as well as 200,000 free and fair elections posters were printed and distributed. Recipients of those materials included the following: Council of Ministers; ministries; courts; national police; prison officials; Royal Cambodian Armed Forces; Royal Gendarmerie; Royal School of Administration; Faculty of Law; hospitals; monks; NGOs and the population at large.

Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

66. In anticipation of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Department of Public Information prepared a film, "For Everyone Everywhere: the Making of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." Along with historical footage from New York and Paris in 1945 and 1948, this film had considerable coverage of efforts by the United Nations to assist the Cambodian Government and people in realizing the rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration, including coverage of the January 1998 visit by the High Commissioner and the work of the Special Representative.

67. The Cambodia office translated the script of the film into Khmer and added a Khmer language soundtrack. With the assistance and support of the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee, the film was broadcast on national television the evening of 10 December. The Khmer language version of the film will be widely distributed throughout Cambodia in a videotape format.

68. At the suggestion of the office, the half-hour film was followed by a one-hour panel discussion at which two representatives of the Cambodian Human Rights Committee and two representatives of Cambodian human rights NGOs discussed the priorities of the human rights in Cambodia over the coming years. Subjects discussed included the problem of impunity, the need to prosecute those responsible for human rights abuses, non-discrimination and equality before the law, domestic violence against women, sexual exploitation and trafficking, and gender discrimination in access to education by women and girls.

69. With the cooperation of UNDP and the office of the Personal Representative, on 10 December a reception was organized for the Government, non-governmental organizations, heads of United Nations agencies in Cambodia, and members of the diplomatic corps. The Human Rights Day statements from the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner were read, as were excerpts from

remarks by the UNDP Administrator. The Acting Head of State and President of the National Assembly, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and the Prime Minister, Hun Sen, both delivered speeches recommitting the newly formed Government to work towards the promotion and protection of human rights. The following day, this event was broadcast on all private and public television stations.

70. The provincial offices of the COHCHR organized Human Rights Day events in the provinces.

H. Monitoring and protection activities

71. Thorough monitoring of human rights violations continued in 1998 with efforts focused on investigations into the large number of reported abuses in the wake of the July 1997 coup d'état and into intimidation and violence in the months leading up to and following the July 1998 election. Work on a second memorandum from the Special Representative to the Royal Government of Cambodia on extrajudicial killings, torture and other violations in the aftermath of the 1997 coup continued until May 1998, at which point the office had recorded, investigated and documented a total of some 80 killings and more than 20 disappearances since July 1997. The second memorandum, providing information about 42 killings and seven disappearances, was completed and handed to the Government in mid-May by the Special Representative.

72. The Monitoring Unit was expanded in late May by the creation of six mobile monitoring teams and two analysts tasked with assessing and investigating allegations of politically inspired intimidation and violence related to the election process. These teams covered most of the provinces of the country with the exception of the north-east. In all, the teams recorded more than 400 allegations of intimidation and violence, including 49 killings, in the weeks prior to the election. Of these, around 140 were assessed credible and consequently placed under investigation. Around 90 of these cases were eventually confirmed. Twenty-two of the total of 49 killings were assessed as being either political or containing both political and personal elements. This number includes the 11 people killed in the ex-Khmer Rouge stronghold, Anlong Veng, on election day.

73. In the immediate aftermath of polling, the mobile teams and analysts shifted their focus to monitoring the large number of opposition activists who at that time were leaving their home villages owing to fear of retribution. By late August, all but one of the mobile teams had been redeployed to Phnom Penh where opposition demonstrations were gathering steam and a government crackdown was anticipated. The remaining team remained in Siem Reap until September. When security forces intervened on 7 September to end the demonstrations, the monitoring teams, supplemented by other COHCHR and United Nations staff, were on hand to record abuses while simultaneously maintaining a high-profile preventive presence during situations of confrontation.

74. Monitoring continued till the end of November to enable investigation of the large number of cases of missing people and of killings recorded during the demonstration period. The results of all investigations were documented in seven progress reports issued over the election period, the last of which

was presented to the Government and made public on 28 October. Six press statements relating to violations recorded and investigated by the Unit were also released during the demonstration period.

I. Network of provincial offices

75. The activities of the Cambodia office agreed upon by the Government in 1993 include the establishment of provincial offices with the objective of strengthening human rights activities at the provincial level and ensuring uniform implementation of the Cambodia office's programme throughout the country.

76. The main activities of the provincial offices include: (a) monitoring the general human rights situation; (b) facilitating training programmes for military, police and other local authorities; (c) maintaining regular contact with local authorities, military, police, prison officials and NGOs; (d) monitoring the human rights and humanitarian situation in the prisons; (e) holding regular consultations with local human rights NGOs, and organizing some capacity-building for these NGOs; and (f) conducting investigations into individual cases, in partnership with human rights NGOs.

77. The office opened its first three provincial offices in Battambang, Kompong Cham and Siem Reap in early 1995. In early 1997, three other offices were opened in Kampot, Kompong Chhnang and Prey Veng. Since late 1997, each provincial office has been staffed by a Cambodian provincial human rights officer and an assistant, with an adviser who is a United Nations Volunteer. New versions of the job descriptions for all three posts of provincial human rights officer, adviser and assistant have recently been drafted to correspond more closely with current reality.

78. In mid-1998, an internal review of the mandate and structure of the provincial office network was held. The review concluded that all six existing provincial offices should continue to function for the time being, but that the usefulness of their continuation should be assessed at intervals. No expansion of the network should be undertaken at present. It was agreed that human rights advisers (UNVs) continue to be required, but that greater emphasis should be put on their capacity-building role, both for provincial office staff and for local NGOs. The need for greater contact and exchanges between the provincial offices and the Phnom Penh Office was recognized, and planning of an exchange programme is under way. It was also agreed that discussions should take place with NGOs at the local and central levels to see what their expectations of the network are, and how the relationship can be further developed.

79. In the 1998 election period, the provincial offices conducted training in democracy, free and fair elections for provincial and commune election commissions and members of different political parties. The provincial offices acted as neutral meeting points for discussion among international and local monitors, election officials, local authorities and others on legal aspects of the elections and problems arising in connection with election preparation.

Annex

GRANTS TO NGO HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS IN 1998
(in addition to programme of support to NGO provincial offices)

Name of organization	Project	Amount (US\$)
Cambodian Institute of Human Rights	To train school teachers in human rights teaching methodology	34 000
Cambodian Rural Agriculture Development and Democracy	To provide assistance on child trafficking issue	6 000
Documentation Centre of Cambodia (D.C.Cam)	To research violations committed against the Vietnamese and Chinese minorities	12 000
Cambodian Centre for Protection of Children's Rights	To investigate cases of child trafficking and sexual exploitation and to provide training to local officials	20 000
Goutte d'eau	To train local officials in Neak Loeung on the rights of the child, child trafficking and sexual exploitation	5 000
Khmer Youth Association	To provide Khmer literacy and human rights training to prisoners in T5	10 000
Legal Aid of Cambodia	To introduce systematic judicial review procedures for children at the Youth Rehabilitation Centre	26 000
Khmer Kampuchea Krom for Human Rights and Development Association	To provide training on minority rights in Phnom Penh and Kandal province	10 500
Cham Khmer Islam Minority Human Rights and Development Association	To provide human rights and minority rights training to ethnic Cham	15 000
Cambodia Labour Organization	To promote labour rights and provide legal assistance to victims of labour rights abuses	20 000
Cambodia Women Crisis Centre	To combat and prevent gender-based abuse in Cambodia	34 000
Agir pour les femmes en situation précaire	To provide shelter for underage girls who are victims of sexual exploitation	29 500

Name of organization	Project	Amount (US\$)
Cambodian Children and Handicap Development	To assist young victims of sexual exploitation to reintegrate into the community	15 000
Committee for Child Abuse Protection in Battambang	To investigate cases of child abuse, in particular child trafficking	2 000
Centre de Developpement cultural et arts populaires Khmer	To provide human rights education through puppet theatre	12 000
Inspectorate of Social Labour	To provide emergency assistance to victims of sexual trafficking	3 207
Grand total		254 207
